GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3789
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2000
INDIA`S STAND ON PALESTINE ISSUE
T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Israel has opposed India`s stand on West Asia issue recently; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) & (b) Israel is aware of India`s stand on recent developments in West Asia and Government of India have had contacts with the Israeli and Palestinian leadership on these developments. The Government maintain that the issues involved in the Middle East Peace Process are of immense complexity. We are deeply concerned over the continuing escalation of violence. We have urged all sides to desist from provocative acts, use of indiscriminate force and encouragement to violence. Peace and normalcy must immediately be restored and the Middle East Peace Process not permitted to collapse irretrievably.